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House Intelligence Chairman Statement on CIA's Decision on 9/11 Accountability Board

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra, R-Mich., Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, issued the following statement after CIA Director Porter Goss announced a decision not to establish a 9/11 accountability board:

“The CIA IG’s 9/11 accountability report makes it clear that no employee violated the law and there was no smoking gun that would have allowed the Intelligence Community to predict or prevent 9/11. It does identify a number of systemic weaknesses within the CIA, including training and language issues, none of which will be addressed through the creation of an accountability board.

“With regards to 9/11, the time has come to look forward, not backwards punitively. The intelligence committees, independent commissions and now the CIA’s inspector general have all reviewed the Intelligence Community’s shortcomings in the lead up to that tragic day and reached the same major conclusions.

“Our goal now should be the successful implementation of the Intelligence Community reforms that grew out of 9/11 and addressing any identified shortcomings. This committee will continue to pursue these solutions as well as those proposed by the CIA and other community agencies.

“The ongoing threats our nation faces are real, and the focus needs to be on building the best Intelligence Community to keep America safe.”

<http://intelligence.house.gov>

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